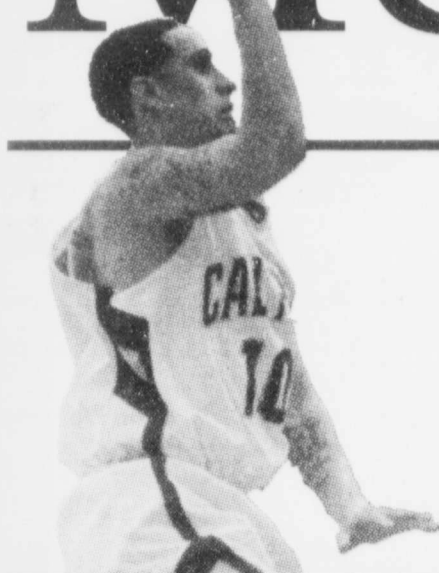


MUSTANG DAILY

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY



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Volume LXXII, Number 99

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

www.mustangdaily.net

New diversity initiatives underway

Chelsea Bieker

MUSTANG DAILY

In response to last quarter's crop house incident, new university initiatives are under way aimed at improving Cal Poly's diversity and increase multicultural awareness in the curriculum.

Cal Poly President Warren Baker sent out a campus-wide e-mail earlier this month detailing the "Inclusive Excellence Model," developed by the Association of American Colleges and Universities, which will promote a more accepting and varied learning environment.

The model is described as paving the way

toward a more "rich and diverse learning environment where everyone feels valued and included."

ASI President Angela Kramer said diversity contributes to a well-rounded education and helps students develop perspectives about the world around them.

"It really is important for any university to foster those sorts of opportunities for people to experience differences of perspectives," she said. "Without it you just don't have education."

Kramer is involved in the development of the Inclusive Excellence Model, as well as the diversity learning objectives associated with it.

"With the diversity learning objectives you

have a set of guidelines for faculty members to follow when conducting their classes," Kramer said. "It could be how to foster a successful conversation, or how to meet in the middle with dissent."

She said that departments will have the autonomy to develop these principles as they see fit, as long as they adhere to the guidelines set forth.

"You need to allow it to happen," Kramer said. "You need to allow debate and allow people (on) the playing field to say something that may be a little bit controversial."

Kramer is a self-described supporter of the model, and said that because Cal Poly doesn't

have a racially-diverse population, the school will have to take extra steps in comparison with other universities to ensure that all students feel safe and welcome in this academic and social environment.

"I think with the incident that happened at the crop house, it makes us realize that it happens to other people and that it really affected them," she said. "A lot of Cal Poly students don't have those words directed at them. We as a university were really shocked into this reality that not everyone feels comfortable here."

Provost Robert Koob said that the Inclusive Excellence Model would aid students and fac-

see Diversity, page 2



PHOTOS BY CASSANDRA J. CARLSON AND LAUREN RABAINO MUSTANG DAILY

GRAPHIC BY OMAR SANCHEZ MUSTANG DAILY

Former spy discusses Middle Eastern issues

Josh Ayers

MUSTANG DAILY

Pro-Israel advocates will have a chance to express their views tonight when the Cal Poly Israel Alliance and Hillel host guest speaker Aryeh Green at 8 p.m. in Philips Hall.

Green is the current director of Media Central, an organization that aims to provide support and services to foreign journalists working in Israel. He has an extensive background in the arena of human rights and Middle East policy.

"It's going to be an informative event," said Zachary Goldstein, vice president of Cal Poly Israel Alliance and mechanical engineering senior.



COURTESY PHOTO

"He's had lots of experience," he added.

Green, a Washington D.C. native, hails a wide variety of lectures and discussion topics, but will focus particularly on human rights and freedom issues regarding the Middle East — specifically the democratic process and its potential benefit to all nationalities in the region.

In addition to his work at Central Media, Green has been a policy adviser to Natan Sharansky, former Israeli minister and prime minister, since the mid-1990s.

Sharansky, a noted dissident of the Soviet Union who spent almost a

see Israel, page 2

Mardi Gras: all quiet on the SLO front

Clinton McGue

MUSTANG DAILY

Overheard conversations prior to class usually cover a wide variety of subjects, but talk around campus at the beginning of this week is about the Mardi Gras weekend that wasn't.

One of the most recognized events in college towns took a backseat to life this past weekend in San Luis Obispo, as the excessive partying was held to a minimum.

Cal Poly students seemed either unaware that this past weekend was Mardi Gras, or couldn't find a way to unleash themselves during the lone weekend before Ash Wednesday.

"I knew it was Mardi Gras, but nothing was happening," business freshman Erin Diamond said. "The city was dead."

"It's amazing that it was so quiet. There used to be parties everywhere

with a Mardi Gras theme, but it just isn't what it used to be," psychology senior Liz Sbranti said.

For the last five years, in what may be a sad period for some people's college pride, the City of San Luis Obispo has proudly proclaimed that the "party is over."

In a campaign that began following the Mardi Gras riot of 2004, in which the town was swarmed by young people, breaking windows and reaping havoc.

The city council declared that Mardi Gras celebrations in San Luis Obispo were over and asked for the police department to stop it, Captain Dan Blanke said.

The San Luis Obispo Police Department was asked to present a three-year plan to eliminate the carnival-like atmosphere in the city. The most dra-

see Mardi Gras, page 2

Green

continued from page 1

decade in prison for spying for the United States, immigrated to Israel in the late 1980s and has been active in promoting democracy and human rights in the Middle East.

President of Cal Poly Israel Alliance Jacob Kory, electrical engineering senior, said he wants people to come "in order to learn about the greater Middle East, not just the Israel-Arab conflict."

Goldstein said he wants the event to provide a positive, fresh view for students that attend.

"It's going to be a positive event," he said. "We're not out there to badmouth anybody. We're here to promote Israel and to promote democracy and positive solutions."

Goldstein referenced recent events put on by the Students for Justice and Peace and said that some have not been constructive. He hopes to provide more balance on the topic by hosting the Green lecture.

"We think a lot of the information is not very accurate and we're doing this event to kind of put information out there to the student population," Goldstein said.

Mardi Gras

continued from page 1

matic and noticeable approach to fixing the problem came in 2005 when about 450 police officers were patrolling the streets. The normal amount of vehicles patrolling the streets is 12 to 14.

"You really couldn't look right or left without seeing a police car," Blanke said.

It was an effort that couldn't be done by the local police alone. So, highway patrolmen from as far as Sacramento came to help and the FBI also helped coordinate the initial crackdown, he said.

This weekend the police department had 20 cars on patrol.

"We put more (police) on patrol, because we weren't sure what to expect," Blanke said. "We didn't hear any advanced talk and nothing came up in our Internet searches. But, we are in the business of being safe rather than sorry."

Each year since the riots, the celebrations have become less and less chaotic and forgotten by more and more students. This year, however, may have marked the death of the carnival in SLO.

"I think people have forgotten about it," graphic communications senior Michael Foote said. "The city really shut it down."

According to Blanke, this was the Mardi Gras that wasn't. The level of activity was normal for an average weekend, he said.

"As far as we are concerned, Mardi Gras is basically dead and we want the memory of it to fade away," Blanke said.

Diversity

continued from page 1

ulty consciously see things from multiple points of view. He said that the crop house incident was an example of an underlying problem on campus, as well as nationally.

"I think that it's something that American society deals with on a daily basis," he said. "But it does mean we have more work to do here at Cal Poly to diminish that tension."

Koob said the university tries to teach students to not make premature uneducated judgments about various people and groups.

"They ought to approach every person on campus as an interesting individual and not jump to any conclusions about what that person may or may not be thinking based on what group they belong to," he said. "I think putting that into practice would be very valuable."

Kramer said that there are ways to bring greater diversity on campus that can be accomplished within daily student life.

"I would like to encourage my friends and colleagues to step up a little bit," she said. "That is your place, it's not being rude, it's not telling people how to live their lives, it's about

respect. It's about an educated class about to go into the world. Saying comments and describing people in a way that has traditionally been filled with hate, that's not an educated action."

Kramer said she views Cal Poly as an open campus and very relaxed about issues involving diversity.

"Besides the crops house, I personally have never had any issues with hate or intolerance," she said. "But there is a difference between, 'I'm not racist,' and standing up for someone."

Both Koob and Kramer are aware that although action is underway in dealing with this issue, there is still much to be done, including providing more training for faculty and staff and providing contacts for students to report behavior they are uncomfortable with.

"I do think that we wish to do whatever we can so that that the climate is as supportive as it can be," Koob said. "But you are never perfect; there is always more to do. But, I do think we are attempting to improve."

Kramer describes diversity as, "just living with people."

"We will take every necessary step that is feasible that will change that culture," she said. "Who are we to tell people who they can and can't be? It's not our place."

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WORD ON THE STREET

"How are you celebrating Mardi Gras?"

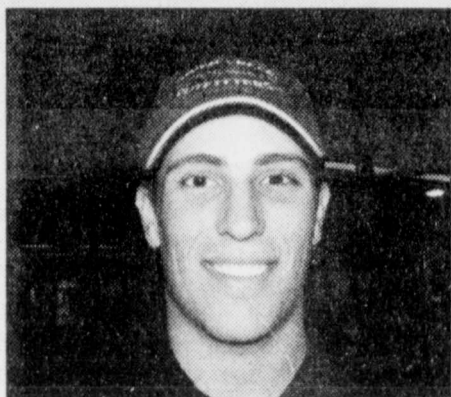


"I didn't know it was Fat Tuesday! What am I doing in school?"

-Corey Kreider,
environmental engineering
senior

"No, not really. I knew it was today but I was busy with school. I probably would be partying if I were to celebrate."

-Bryan Welly,
agriculture business freshmen



"It's Fat Tuesday right now?"

-Matt Hutton,
environmental engineering
graduate student

"I have no plans. I knew it was coming up but didn't know exactly when it was."

-Robert Hosbach,
general engineering junior



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Reformers debate Calif. Constitution

Juliet Williams

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Following the bruising effort to fix California's budget deficit, political reformers are debating a novel idea to end the state's political gridlock.

They want to rewrite the state Constitution to fundamentally change how California governs it-

self.

The Constitutional Convention Summit convened Tuesday in Sacramento, bringing together office holders and government experts to hash out ideas about how to do it. The gathering was organized by the Bay Area Council, a business group.

Among the suggestions brought by participants: scrap term limits

for legislators, redraw political districts to make them smaller, allow voters to register on Election Day or when they renew their driver's license and combine the two houses of the state Legislature.

California voters first would need to approve an initiative allowing a constitutional convention, then decide who gets to participate.

Obama speaks on economy



PABLO MARTINEZ ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vice President Joe Biden and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi applaud prior to President Barack Obama's address to a joint session of Congress in the House Chamber of the Capitol in Washington Tuesday.

Ron Fournier

ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Barack Obama gave America the audacity to hope again.

After describing the U.S. economy in nearly apocalyptic terms for weeks, pushing his \$787 billion stimulus plan through Congress, the president used his address to Congress on Tuesday night to tap the deep well of American optimism — the never-say-die spirit that every president tries to capture in words. And great presidents embody.

"We will rebuild. We will recover, and the United States of America

will emerge stronger than before," Obama said, echoing Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan.

"The answers to our problems don't lie beyond our reach," Obama said. "What is required now for this country is to pull together, confront boldly the challenges we face, and take responsibility for our future once more."

The themes of responsibility, accountability and, above all, national community rang throughout an address carefully balanced by the gravity of its times. "The impact of this recession is real, and it is everywhere," he said.

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Swingin' musical returns for highly anticipated encore

Samantha MacConnell
MUSTANG DAILY

Although we'll never be able to relive days gone by, it's sometimes fun to revel in the memories. "In The Mood," a fully staged retro musical that recreates moments in the lives and times of America's 1940s generation, aims to convey a sense of that time period when it makes its second appearance at the Performing Arts Center Wednesday evening.

The event sold out so fast last March, many did not get to see the show.

"What it brings to audiences is an authentic recreation of that very special era, the World War II era of music and dance that a lot of our patrons might remember or they remember their parents listening to this music," said Lisa Woske, marketing coordinator for Cal Poly arts. "It's really a retro show recreating that time in our entertainment history."

World War II defined the 1940s and saw the creation of what would be called the 'greatest generation.' Women entered the workforce and the television, first computer and music of the Big Bands emerged, which found a way to lift America's spirits.

"The term 'greatest generation' was because those people really believed what they were fighting for and if anything 'In The Mood' does is try to portray that," said Bud Forrest, the show's creator, producer and musical director. "People leave the show with a renewed energy and spirit."

The play features music of the 1940s that moved the nation in a time of hardship. The music of Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey, two American big band leaders, will be

presented, along with the talents of Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, Harry James, Erskin Hawkins, the Andrews Sisters and Frank Sinatra.

Forrest pointed out how Glenn Miller's 1942 song "At Last," made classic by Etta James' rendition, was sung at many of President Barack Obama's inaugural balls while he danced with his wife, illuminating the music's lasting impact and appreciation today.

"I think that this music is American music, American lyrics, American big bands, and I think it's part of our culture," Forrest said. "I think for people coming to see 'In The Mood,' there is no story, but the music is the story."

Along with the Cal Poly performance, "In The Mood" has 13 other performances scheduled throughout the state. The musical features a 23-member company of singers, dancers and the String of Pearls Big Band Orchestra. Authentic and colorful costumes recreate the essence of the 1940s.

"I really want to encourage the college community to come out and experience something that has probably not crossed their radars in a while," Forrest said. "I think they would absolutely enjoy this presenta-

see Musical, page 6

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BY JON MONTEITH

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Crime is a disease and we're a pink chalky-tasting medicine!

Back when I was a kid I would play on my dad's Power Mac for hours. I remember faking sick all the time to stay home and play my favorite LucasArts adventure games, like "Sam & Max Hit the Road." I can't tell you how much I loved that game. All the plucky one-liners, odd characters and truckloads of comedic violence were relentless. It was the perfect game for a 9-year-old!

As fate would have it, I found out some years later as a teenager that Sam & Max actually started out in comics written and illustrated by Steve Purcell. But after a few failed attempts to procure some copies of my own, Sam & Max slowly slipped from my consciousness.

That was until a few months ago at a comic book store in San Jose, where I found the ultimate treasure, the holy grail if you will: "Sam & Max Surfin' the Highway," the complete Sam & Max comics to date. You wouldn't believe my ecstasy! Here it was, in one volume, the culmination of my childhood and teenage entertainment. Let me tell you, I was not disappointed.

To better understand Purcell's work, I think a bit of explanation of Sam and Max is in order. Sam is your stereotypical-looking private eye, sporting a suit, tie and fedora, and

just so happens to be a gun-toting dog. Max on the other hand, is an insane and adorable rabbit creature that doesn't wear clothes, has a head that is much too large for his own body and constantly resorts to violence.

Sam and Max are actually free-

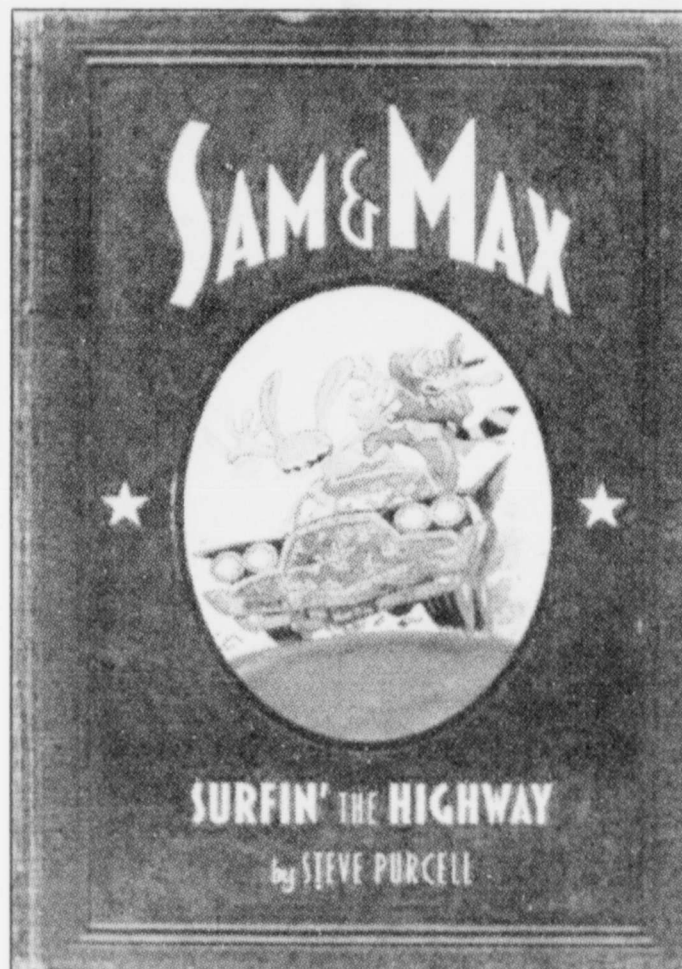
mess of off-the-wall wrongdoers with unbridled violence.

There's something to be said about the offbeat dialogue in Sam & Max comics. Sam and Max really have a language all of their own, with such phrases as, "Holy jumping mother o' God in a side-care with chocolate jimmies and a lobster bib!" I don't even know what that means, but I love it!

I'm rather glad I didn't find these wonderful Sam & Max comics when I was a kid. It's not like I would have been too young for them, but I probably wouldn't have appreciated them as much. When you're a kid, you just don't appreciate comedic violence that much. And hey, having all the comics in one volume is pretty frickin' sweet!

So if ever you have a hankerin' for some offbeat comedy, pick up a copy of "Sam & Max Surfin' the Highway." Or if you're really feeling in the mood, try to find a copy of "Sam & Max Hit the Road." If that isn't enough, which I'm sure it won't be, you just might be able to find the short-lived animated series on DVD.

Jon Monteith is a history senior and Mustang Daily comic book columnist.



COURTESY PHOTO

lance police in a New York look alike city and take on a variety of odd jobs, such as battling giant cockroaches, rat creatures from the moon and a whole

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Musical

continued from page 5

tion. It's really for everybody."

"In The Mood" opens to audiences at the PAC tonight at 7 p.m. Student ticket prices range from \$28 to \$38.

"It should be a fun show. It really was a unique time in history when everyone was on the same page, listening to the same music," Woske said. "It was a unified time in our society and it's really well done."



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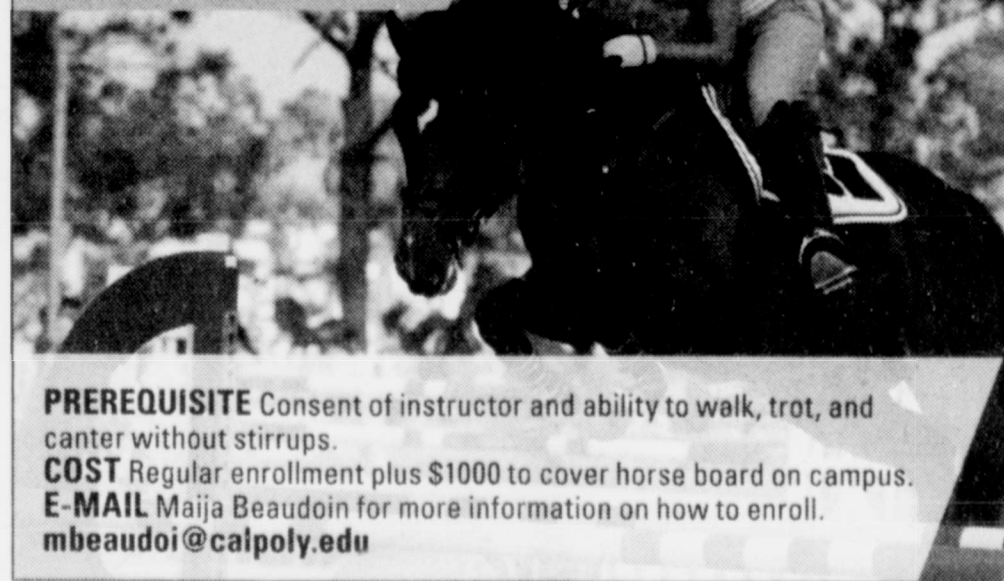
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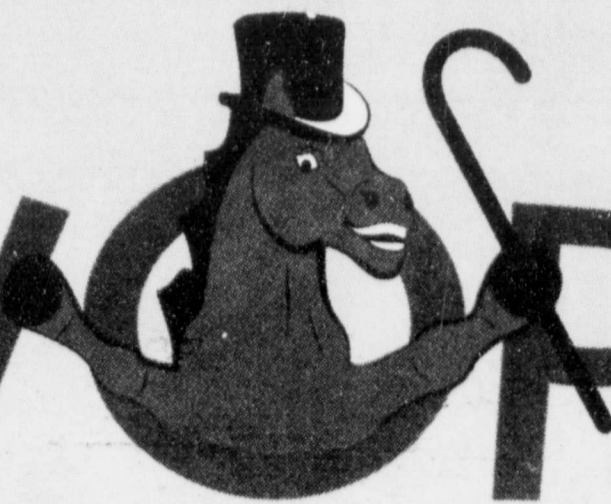
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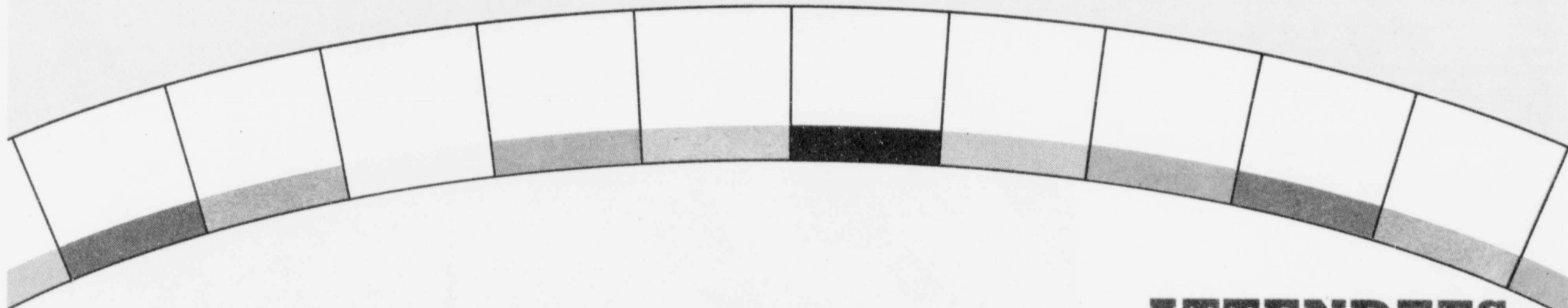
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February 25, 2009
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Mustang Daily

"No, then we'd have to put out."

MUSTANG DAILY OPINION/EDITORIAL

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Editor in chief: Marilize van Romburgh
Managing Editor: Giana Magnoli

mustangdaily@gmail.com

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8

political column

Stimulus lures with promise of instant gratification



JOHN OVERMYER NEWSART

After all the froth over the stimulus bills lately, I am convinced that this country is dominated by two classes. The first class is made up of those weak- and wishful-minded, often called Democrats. The second class is that craven order which preys upon the first class and is often known as "our nation's leaders."

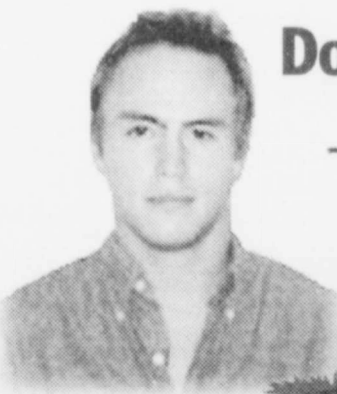
These two classes assure the passage of Obama's (or was it Bush's?) stimulus packages. Bafflingly, enough people believe that taking money from some people and giving it to other people will solve this country's economic problems, as though a bankrupt government can rescue a bankrupt nation. Also, another crucial ingredient, there are enough politicians in power sufficiently craven to execute this idiocy.

At its core, the stimulus package caters to base emotion. Many Americans find themselves in a pinch and they want out — now. The promise of instant gratification is what makes McDonald's such a successful franchise. It is the same cheap, greasy rubbish which assures the success of Obama's presidency, a presidency that is already suffocating under mountains of laurels, which mainstream history, with its predictable prejudices, will continue to pen with fawning, flattering quills long after we have all rotted.

But really, I'm not elitist. Base emotions are the stuff of man, without which we probably wouldn't recognize our best friends, or ourselves for that matter. Let's be honest, very few care about correctly identifying the causes of the current recession. We lack the intellectual tools, interest and the motivation to do so. What we're having for dinner tonight is of much higher im-

portance.

In pursuit of honesty, let's go one step further. Despite all this grand talk about uniting for some great common purpose, we really put all that nonsense behind us after watching the evening news, don't we? Our petty, private existences, our own unique, selfish ends matter a great deal more, do they not? At the end of the day, we're individuals and spend most of our lives



Don't Tread on Me

by Jeremy Hicks

wholly devoted towards maximizing comfort for ourselves and our families. We're a prejudiced, self-centered lot.

I know Obama would sanctimoniously scold such a disposition, but I'll let it rest for now. What I prefer to scold (and Obama seems content to encourage) are those who pursue their selfish interests at the expense of others. I do not condemn people's urge to get out of trouble as quickly as possible. That's a natural reaction. We all have selfish interests and needs, many of

them very important, even urgent, but some of us choose to achieve these interests at our own expense, some at the expense of others. We must all choose how we will provide for ourselves and our families. Some choose the productive, creative process. Others excuse themselves from this pursuit, preferring to feed off the productive results of capitalism like maggots at the roots of a tree.

How is this parasitism allowed to persist? How are idle hands exchanged for comfort and security? Such an exchange is not a naturally occurring phenomenon in the free market of voluntary exchanges for obvious reasons: something for nothing is an unfair trade. These exchanges must be forced, for they involve at least one unwilling party, i.e. the taxpayer. To force these exchanges, politicians do all the dirty, coercive work of the state, taking from the dastardly rich and diverting the money to the needy.

Of course, the illusion of redistribution is only a veneer under which the crimes are committed. As anyone who has troubled themselves with the numbers knows, most of the money does not go towards putting wood in the stoves of the poor, but rather towards stoking a staggeringly huge and bureaucratic middleman, the government. Nonetheless, this powerful, symbiotic relationship between parasite and politician flourishes. It promises to be this spring's most offensive blossom.

Jeremy Hicks is a 2008 political science graduate, the founder of the Cal Poly Libertarian Club and a Mustang Daily political columnist.

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Tattoo removal offers chance to fade the past

At 16, I was free-spirited, rebellious and fearless in the face of adrenaline. Parties and drugs finally caught up with me and resulted in the exile from my family's home. At a local tattoo parlor, I searched for a design that represented my current thoughts about life. I decided on a phrase etched in deep, black ink across my upper back. I wanted to show the world what I was about, and the only way I thought that was possible was through means of inflicting pain on my body.

As the years passed, I've matured, mentally and emotionally, and the tattoo that once symbolized my nonconforming response to society now reminds me of painful memories from my past. Instead of showing off a beautiful piece of artwork, I hide it from the world.

Today, those words — "you only live once" — no longer have the same power. Luckily, the ink is fading away significantly more each day. I found a solution to what I once thought was a permanent problem: I'm having my tattoo removed.

I have scheduled my laser tattoo removal appointments with Dr. Janet O'Leary at the Diablo Regional Laser Center every two months for the past two years. Yes, the process is timely and expensive, but contrary to what some may say, it is not painful. With the right attitude, motivation and support system, an ugly, distracting tattoo can be history; gone with no trace.

According to the American Society of Dermatological Surgery, over 50 percent of the 10 million Americans who have a tattoo would like it removed.

After all, the skull and crossbone tattoos that once seemed fashionable or tough are not always perceived well by employers or family members and it certainly will look different on the skin in 30 years.

Today, laser tattoo removal treatment is widely performed, with centers all over the United States. Previous removal methods such as excision, dermabrasion, salabrasion, chemical removal and early lasers caused scarring. New, technologically advanced lasers are gentle, effective and prevent harmful side effects.

A few hours before treatment, the patient must apply a high-topical anesthetic numbing cream to the site (believe me, this is the important part). The procedure lasts 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the size of the tattoo. The laser beam passes through the skin and attacks the dried ink particles

inside. The blood stream then absorbs the ink and processes it through the kidneys and liver to remove it as waste in a natural body process for the next two months. It's nice to collect before and after photos to track the progress.

The laser beam releases heat, which can irritate the skin, so ice packs are applied to the area during treatment and for two hours afterward. In order to achieve maximum results, all instructions must be followed properly to prevent the skin from becoming scarred.

An evaluation is needed to estimate the amount of ink in the tattoo. On average, a tattoo removal costs \$1,500 to \$2,000. Every tattoo artist's style is different, so every tattoo is different. The tattoo artist that created mine went over it twice, resulting in additional ink to be removed, meaning more money and time. Just because a tattoo is larger doesn't necessarily mean it has more ink than a smaller tattoo.

Most insurance companies will not cover the tattoo removal procedure because it is considered cosmetic and a personal option in most cases.

I have witnessed the growing trend of tattoos, including parlors arising in smaller suburban areas and even small knit communities in California. Years ago, Berkeley or San Francisco were the most well-known places to go for body work. But now, tattoo parlors like Zebra, Inc. are opening shop in places like Walnut Creek, Calif., an East Bay town of business, entertainment and wealth. The shop's arrival is rumored to attract the "soccer moms" in the area, who may be conveniently located to an escape from a middle-life crisis or be unfortunate enough to have a media-hyped "tramp stamp" done.

The TV show "L.A. Ink" is extremely popular, revealing the emotional aspects of tattoos and the reasons people permanently ink their bare skin. I don't mean to offend tattoo lovers or possible candidates of tattoos. I am definitely not one to judge. I have seen many people become addicted. I just find it ironic that tattoos were once considered non-conforming and unique marks.

TattooFinder.com has a pretty interesting list of questions to ask before making a life-changing tattoo decision:

- 1) There will be some level of pain involved. Am I OK with that?
- 2) Am I comfortable knowing that a tattoo will become a permanent part of my body?
- 3) Do I accept that, even under ideal circumstances, there may be some health risks?
- 4) Whether people love my tattoo or hate it, can I accept potential tattoo criticisms and other "tattoo attention" as part of my life?
- 5) What are my reasons for wanting a tattoo?
- 6) Do I understand that my tattoo will change in appearance over time?
- 7) Am I willing to educate myself and do the required research needed for the best tattoo experience?
- 8) Am I willing to take full responsibility for the final outcome of my tattoo and experience?
- 9) Does the decision to get tattooed feel like my own, or are there other influences that might be pressuring me?
- 10) Are there alternatives to a tattoo that would better satisfy my desire to get one?

Over time I have realized that I don't want my life to be affected negatively by society's views on tattoos, and I came to the conclusion that I am young enough to reverse any preconceived misconceptions of my personality.

I have been fortunate to watch my tattoo significantly fade. I predict that there will be no trace of ink by this summer, and I'm excited to wear tank tops that will reveal my inkless upper back.

I am now able to appreciate unlimited possibilities for opportunities in the future, and blessed to live during a time of technological advancement where seemingly permanent mistakes can be erased. At least I didn't have anyone's name tattooed on my skin.

Ashley Ciullo is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily reporter.



Reading Richard Schmidt's comments about the UU Plaza is validation that architecture, like most artistic execution is subjective and comes down to personal taste. To him, it's unique and perhaps stunning, to others it's sterile, emotionless, barren and inhospitable.

To rebut his position, it could be argued that architecture should support and reflect and express the "core" essence of an organization. As this relates to Cal Poly and education in general, the core essence should be one of richness, diversity, layers and levels of exploratory opportunity, nourishing to all the senses and welcoming to all ideas.

If one is to critique the plaza based on the aforementioned criteria, it fails. Perhaps this is why it has been green-lighted for a much needed renovation.

— Randall

Response to "UU Plaza renovation is cultural vandalism"

...or the plaza is unfriendly and cold. Its lack of any humane qualities causes it to be a thoroughfare rather than a place for students to congregate (with the exception of UU hour on Thursdays). Sure, maybe in the '70s large, asymmetrical slabs of concrete were in vogue, but students would prefer a place to meet that doesn't feel like the yard of a Turkish prison.

Perimeter Road will also become a pedestrian walkway adjacent to the UU Plaza, so that stinky noisy bus stop will be non-existent.

— Anonymous

Response to "UU Plaza renovation is cultural vandalism"

Stephanie, do you know what the terms are behind this bill? Not once did you mention what Republicans are opposing. Maybe it's the 12 cent increase in the gasoline tax, the 1 percent increase in sales tax, the increase in car registration taxes, or a multitude of other things. Californians already pay the highest gas tax and sales tax. Yet, the Democrats want us to pay even more. Sure, we all like the idea of the government subsidizing everything, from schools bills, to medical bills. You are in a dream world right now. You currently go to school, have little bills, no real job, low income, etc.

I promise, once you get a real job, and you see the government taking 30 percent plus of your money off the bat, you will be against nationalized programs. Want to buy a new house? Well this new tax increase will cost you an additional \$5,000. If (and I mean if) you ever enter the work force, your misguided views will change.

After reading your articles, I would guess you will probably never be a working citizen. Most likely join the ranks of a lobbyist or other politicians who've never worked a day in their life.

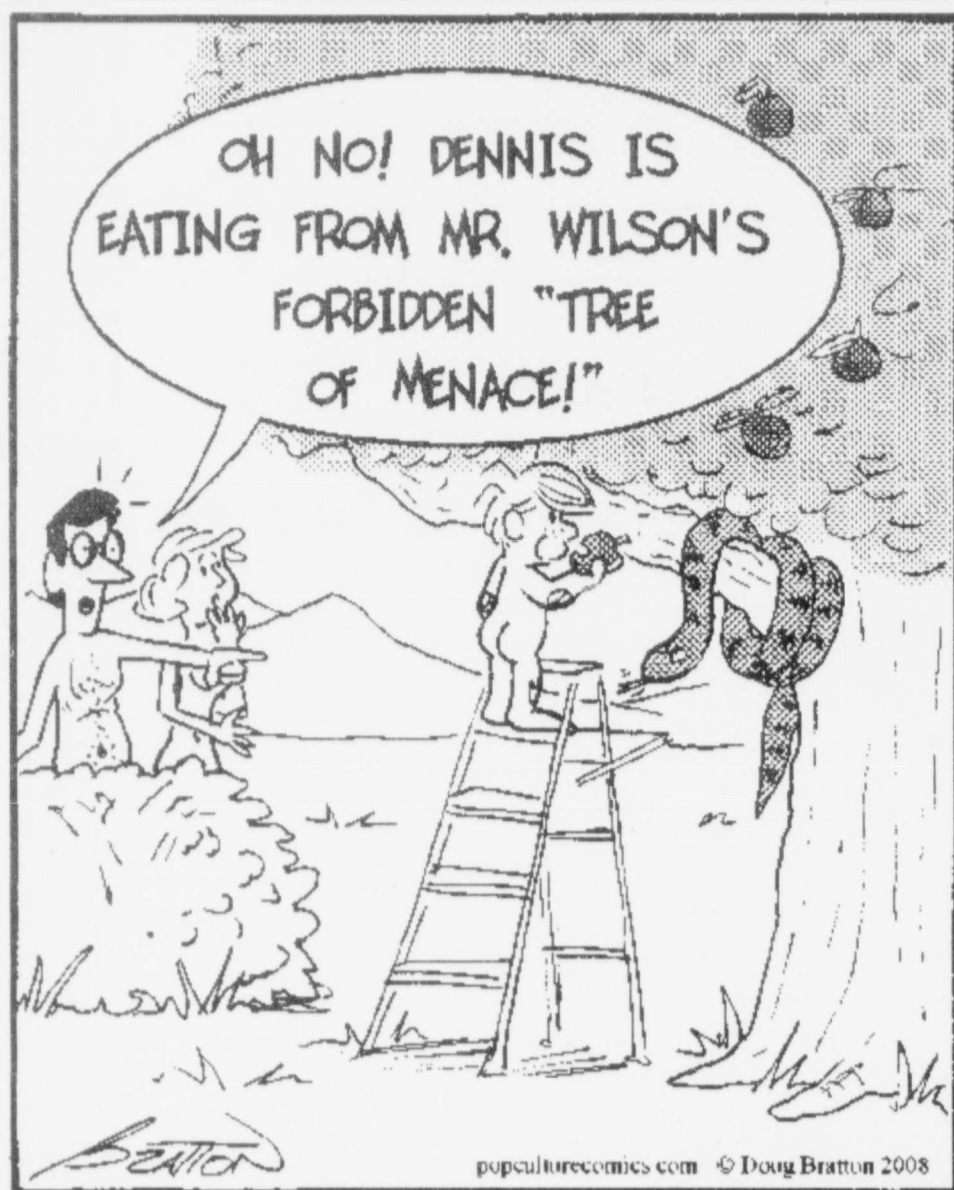
— Jason Carion

Response to "Avoid hypocrisy: Don't just talk it, walk it"



Classifieds comics and games

Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratton



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tional Flea Market in UU Plaza on
February 26th from 11-12!

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Conference is coming up on Feb.
27th and 28th, 2009! The confer-
ence is designed to educate and
bring together people who share a
passion for making a difference
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info at scs.calpoly.edu

Help Wanted

Lifeguards - Avila Beach Port San
Luis Harbor District has seasonal
part-time opportunities for high
school graduates (or enrolled seniors
age 17+) with certification in First
Aid and CPR/ Title 22 (or ability to
obtain same) to serve as lifeguards in
Avila Beach. Candidate must be able
to: pass a 500 meter ocean swim test
in 10 minutes or less; provide safe
conditions for users of public beach

by watching over beach activities;
advise public of dangerous sea
conditions and provide lifesaving
assistance; use emergency equip-
ment; keep logbooks of incidents/
injuries; and maintain cleanliness of
beach areas. Prior experience desir-
able. PAY RANGE: \$11.96 - \$15.26/
hr. (Minimum wage during train-
ing: \$8.00/hr.) SWIM TESTING:
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Harbor District, P. O. Box 249, Avila
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Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

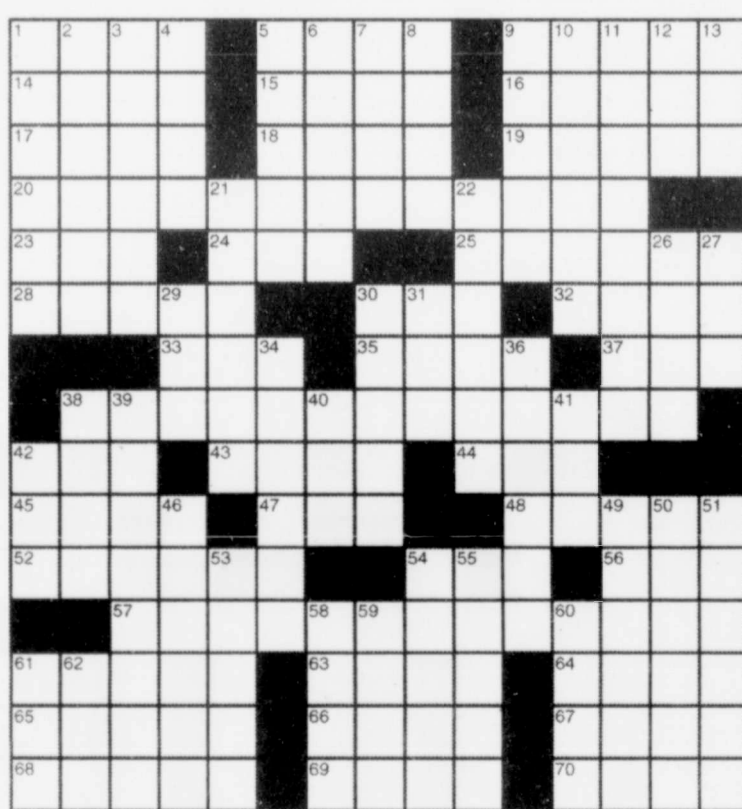
No. 0121

- Across**
- 1 Electrical bridges
 - 5 Disney output, once
 - 9 Winter warmer
 - 14 Polo on TV
 - 15 Place to pay a toll, perhaps
 - 16 Jude Law title role
 - 17 "___ unrelated note ..."
 - 18 Buggy place?
 - 19 4 x 100 meters need
 - 20 Genghis Khan's non-pedigree domain?
 - 23 George ___, longest-reigning English king
 - 24 Round fig.
 - 25 Narrowest winning margin in baseball
 - 28 Rush hour pace
 - 30 Word after pen or gal
 - 32 Newcastle's river
 - 33 Be indisposed
 - 35 In the thick of
 - 37 So last year
 - 38 Non-pedigree essential courses?
 - 42 Monopolist's portion
 - 43 Margin marking
 - 44 Author of "The Island of the Day Before"
 - 45 "___ Houston" of 1980s TV
 - 47 Far from welcoming
 - 48 You can open with them
 - 52 Repugnant
 - 54 Letters on tires
 - 56 Talladega unit
 - 57 Casey's non-pedigree team?
 - 61 Put on the books
 - 63 Trial balloon, e.g.
 - 64 Dr. Pavlov
 - 65 Bat maker's tool
 - 66 Pundit Colmes
 - 67 Be disposed (to)
 - 68 Burgers on the hoof
 - 69 For fear that
 - 70 Bullpen stats

- Down**
- 1 Like super-precise clocks
 - 2 "The Bathers" painter
 - 3 Head cases?
 - 4 Be a fink
 - 5 Hands over
 - 6 Jump for joy
 - 7 Singles bar delivery
 - 8 Pipe part
 - 9 Salk contemporary
 - 10 Bordeaux wine
 - 11 Words from Alphonse or Gaston
 - 12 Ipanema locale
 - 13 Place for reeds
 - 21 Items in some illicit trade
 - 22 Miranda rights readers
 - 26 "One" on a coin
 - 27 Court divider
 - 29 Cabinet department until 1947
 - 30 Kegger, e.g.
 - 31 "___ losing it?"
 - 34 Elizabethan ballad player, maybe

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

DILL BATCH OCTA
ONEI EBOLA DAIS
STAR MABEL EMMA
AUDACITY OF HOPE
GRE NNE SENATE
ENROBES JEW ION
ORC POE EGGO
SOFA BIDEN SNOW
OVAL ELF BAR
REM CEL INTUITS
TRENCH NOW VAT
PRESIDENT OBAMA
LAIC VEDAY ALAS
VICK ELITE ERLE
IDAS SLEET RYES



Puzzle by Fred Piscop

- 36 Ernie the Muppet's rubber toy
- 38 Decked out
- 39 Frisbee game involving body contact
- 40 Nonacademic school activities, informally
- 41 Chaney of "The Wolf Man"
- 42 Latin 101 word
- 46 "You got me!"
- 49 Twist of fiction
- 50 Potassium source
- 51 Goes on a spree
- 53 Out-and-out
- 54 Results of some bargains
- 55 Apply spin to
- 58 Baby bottle?
- 59 On one's duff
- 60 Time on a marquee
- 61 Ways around Chi-town
- 62 N.L.'er since 2005

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Basketball

continued from page 12

side," he said. "They're big, they're physical and they're strong. They keep their games very close."

Cal Poly sophomore guard Shawn Lewis continued his recent run of strong play in the win over South Dakota State, scoring 21 points and grabbing four rebounds.

"Shawn's playing good basketball right now," Bromley said. "He's aggressive off the dribble, and he's aggressive running the floor."

As Lewis' play has improved, Bromley has noticed his confidence has grown as well.

"Shawn is ego driven, and I don't mean egotistical," Bromley explained. "Ego driven is a good thing."

Bromley admitted, however, that Lewis' youthful enthusiasm isn't always a positive.

"I tried to teach him some hard lessons during the last game," Bromley recalled. "I had to sit him



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley tutors junior guard Lorenzo Keeler during last Saturday's game against South Dakota State.

down for a bit after two contested 3-pointers."

Getting younger players like Lewis, freshman forward David Hansen and freshman guard Justin Brown more minutes is something that Bromley will look at if the team is officially eliminated from postseason contention.

"I do think I need to keep de-

veloping young players," he said.

While the team no longer controls its own destiny, Bromley said that they will play to win regardless of what the teams ahead of them do.

"(Our seniors) Titus and John and Chaz deserve to win their last home games and to win out," he said.

Gordon

continued from page 12

that were a little larger but all of a sudden I saw him for the first time before a game, and this dude had nice threads on and the clothes were nicely stitched."

Gordon's smooth transition to the NBA is in sharp contrast to the process that led him to Indiana for college. He orally committed to Illinois before backing out to play for the Hoosiers, leading to an ugly trip to Champaign during his only season with IU.

The 6-foot-3 Gordon led the Big Ten in scoring (20.9 points), set school and Big Ten freshman scoring records with 669 points, and made the third-most free throws by a Hoosier in a single season (231).

But Indiana's 25-8 season was marred by Kelvin Sampson's mid-season resignation, the promotion of Dan Dakich to interim coach and three player suspensions.

"A lot of different things affected the team last year," Gordon Sr. said. "I think coach Sampson was the only guy who could control those kids. And when he wasn't around, kids weren't going to class and were just hanging around."

Gordon told The Indianapolis Star it was a "well-known fact" that some players were using drugs, and their use created a rift on the team. Some players wanted to protest Sampson's ouster, but Gordon stuck around and went to practice.

"Our team was split up in many different ways," he said. "But that

entire experience prepared me to take on anything. I just know how to take it how it is — coaching change and players getting in trouble — a lot of those things happen in the NBA so I'm ready for it."

The silky playmaker is putting together quite the rookie year off the court, too. He started the Eric Gordon Foundation in Indiana with his father and is working with the Indiana Board of Health to set up flu shots for the elderly and HPV vaccines for young girls.

So while the Clippers muddle through another difficult year, they have at least one bright spot in place. The losses and a rash of injuries have led to more playing time for Gordon, who is making the most of his opportunity.

"He's got a good head on his shoulders and we keep pushing to get through this," Dunleavy said. "If we were playing with our team on a nightly basis and this was our record, then I think he would be tested character-wise. But I think our guys understand that we do have an upside."

Athletics

continued from page 12

Raiders, unveiled plans to move south in November 2006, after trying unsuccessfully for years to find a suitable site in Oakland.

The \$1.8 billion ballpark village plan called for a 32,000-seat stadium, town houses and retail space

on more than 200 acres of land near Interstate 880 in Fremont. In 2007, the A's purchased land for the project from Cisco Systems Inc., which agreed to a 30-year naming rights deal for the stadium.

The A's hoped a new ballpark would help them become a bigger spender and a more popular choice for fans in the Bay Area.

Wasserman said the A's also considered a site near Interstate 680 in

the city's Warm Springs neighborhood.

In a statement Tuesday, Wolff said he's still looking for a way to keep the team in Northern California but didn't specify where. Team spokesman Bob Rose declined to comment beyond Wolff's statement.

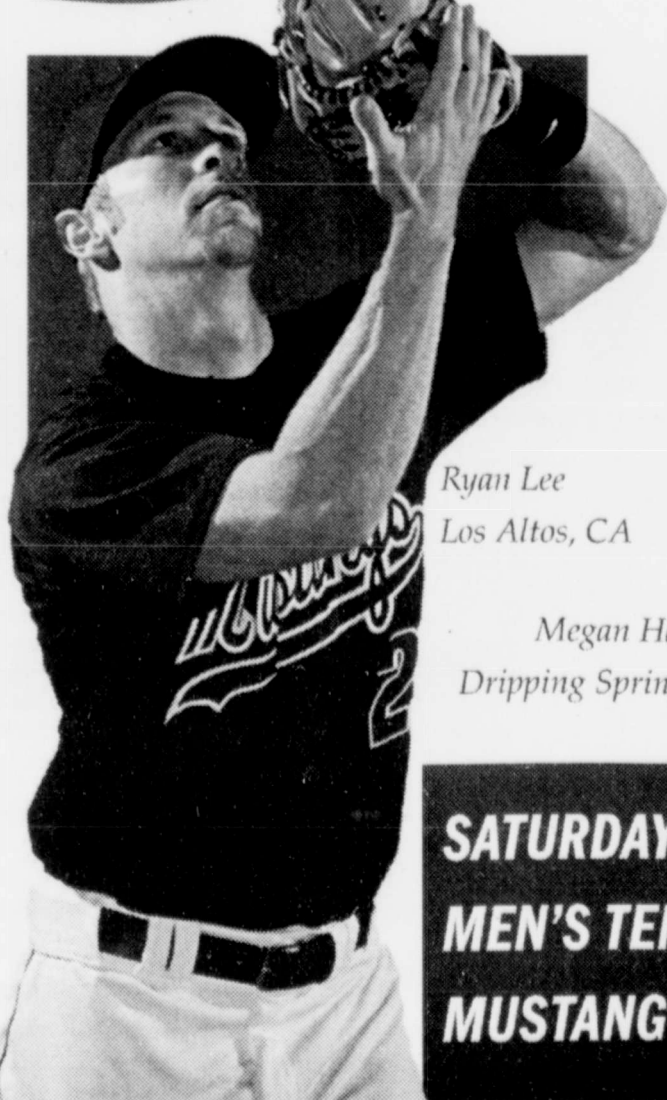
Baseball commissioner Bud Selig has given the A's permission to discuss ballpark plans with other communities.

su|do|ku TODAY'S SOLUTIONS

9	7	4	3	1	5	2	8	6
6	2	1	7	4	8	5	3	9
3	8	5	6	9	2	7	1	4
4	6	3	9	8	7	1	5	2
7	5	8	2	6	1	9	4	3
2	1	9	4	5	3	8	6	7
1	9	7	5	3	6	4	2	8
5	4	6	8	2	9	3	7	1
8	3	2	1	7	4	6	9	5

THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS

**FRIDAY, 6PM
SATURDAY, 6PM
SUNDAY, 1PM
BAGGETT STADIUM
VS**



Ryan Lee
Los Altos, CA

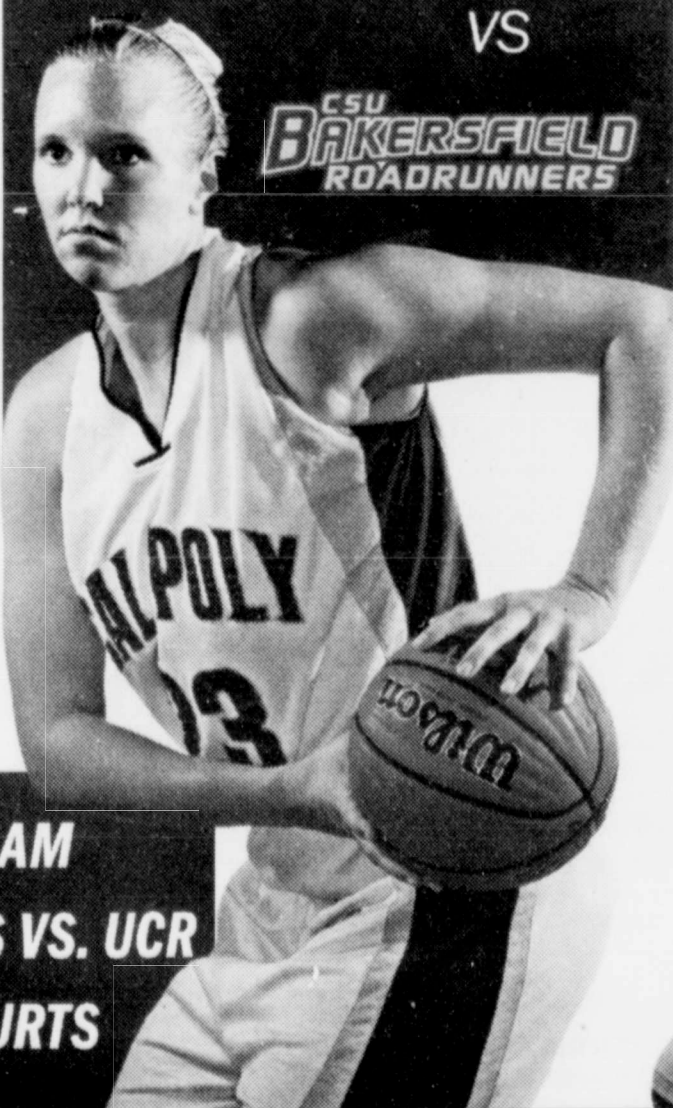
Megan Harrison
Dripping Springs, TX

**SATURDAY, 11AM
MEN'S TENNIS VS. UCR
MUSTANG COURTS**

**THURSDAY, 7PM
MOTT GYM**

VS
**CS
NORTHRIDGE**

**& SATURDAY, 4PM
MOTT GYM
VS**

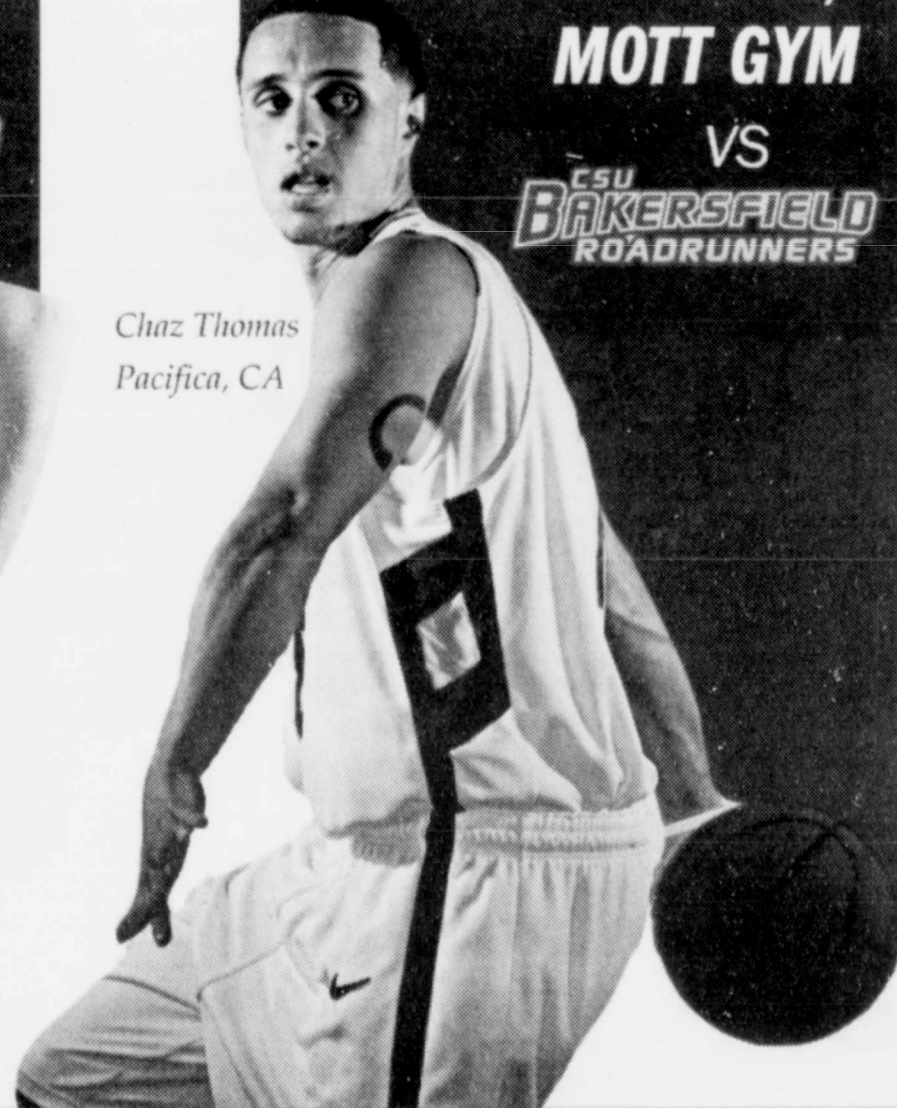


**CSU
BAKERSFIELD
ROADRUNNERS**

**WEDNESDAY, 7PM
MOTT GYM**

VS
**CS
NORTHRIDGE**

**& SATURDAY,
7PM,
MOTT GYM
VS**



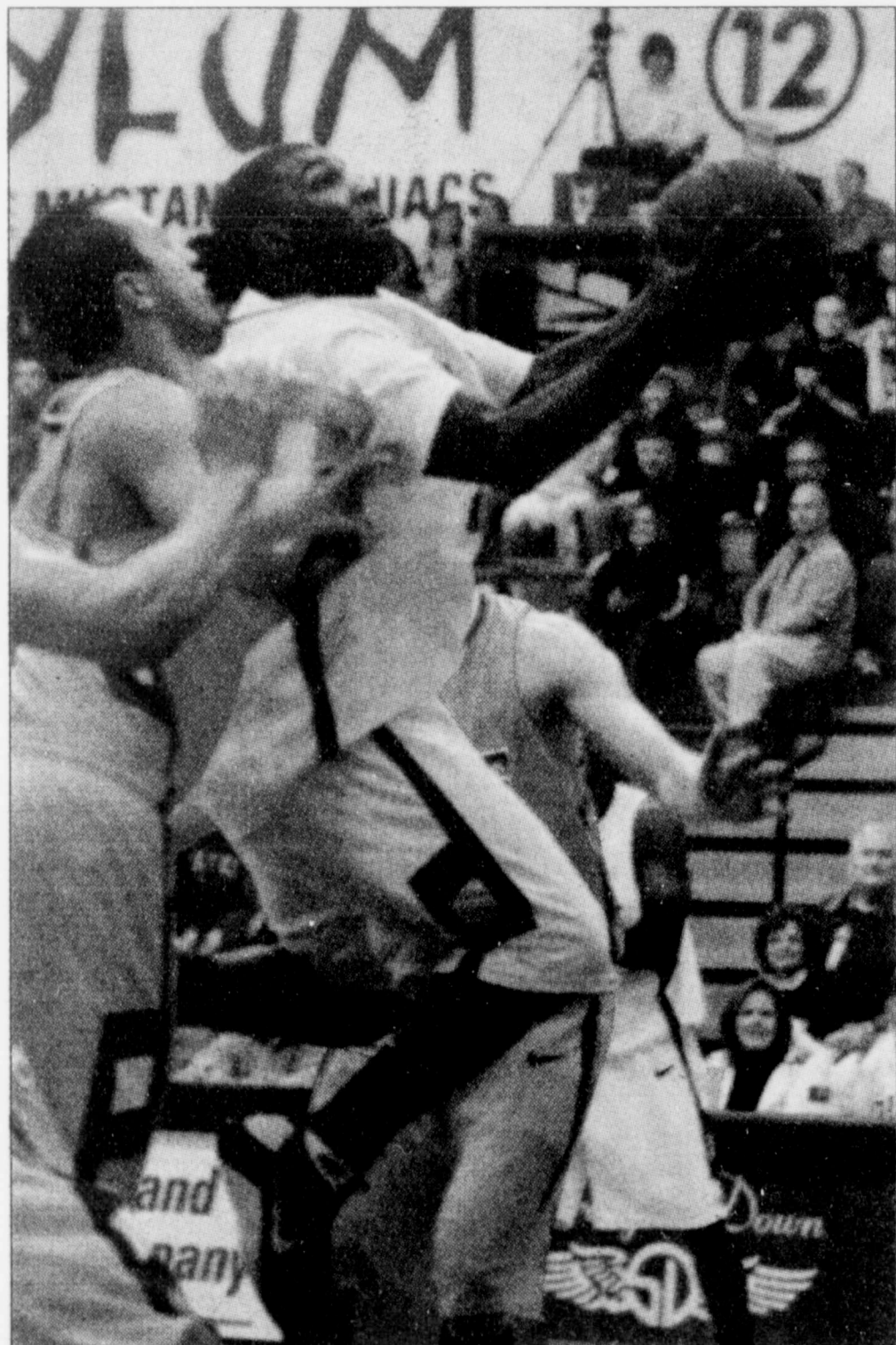
Chaz Thomas
Pacifica, CA

**CSU
BAKERSFIELD
ROADRUNNERS**

MUSTANG DAILY

men's basketball

Mustangs hanging on by a thread



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly freshman guard Justin Brown attempts a layup during the Mustangs 66-62 victory over South Dakota State on Saturday night.

Scott Silvey
MUSTANG DAILY

They're still alive — barely.

The Cal Poly men's basketball team needs a lot to happen in order to make the Big West Conference Tournament next month.

"Mathematically we're still in it," Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley said. "(Winning the games we have left) is all you can do."

The Mustangs trail UC Santa Barbara by two and a half games for the final tournament slot with three games to play. The Gauchos hold the tiebreaker by virtue of two wins against Cal Poly earlier this season.

So the Gauchos would have to lose out while the Mustangs would have to win out.

There is an even trickier situation involving sixth-place UC Riverside dropping their final games, including a season finale at Cal Poly that would allow a tiebreaker scenario. The teams would have split two meetings, which would mean the team with the better record against the top finisher in the conference would go to the tournament.

Both scenarios seem like a statistic improbability, but Bromley said that despite the tough season, the team would battle to the end.

"They're a pretty high-character group," he said. "Coming off some of the devastating losses we've had, they've come back very well."

The Mustangs (7-17, 3-10) have suffered a slew of close losses this

Mathematically we're still in it. (Winning the games we have left) is all you can do.

—Kevin Bromley
Cal Poly head coach

season, including seven losses by five points or less.

In Cal Poly's last game, a 66-62 win over South Dakota State, the

Mustangs were able to use some of that close-game experience to their advantage in pulling out a win over the Jackrabbits.

"We were down five in the second half and our guys showed a lot of moxie and character in coming back," Bromley said.

The Mustangs will try to put some of their new late-game knowledge to use when they host Cal State Bakersfield (7-20) tonight at 7 p.m. in Mott Gym. The Roadrunners beat Cal Poly by two points earlier this season.

While the Cal State Bakersfield game is non-conference, Bromley said it will help the Mustangs prepare for their final Big West Conference games, particularly UC Riverside.

"Bakersfield is a lot like River-

see Basketball, page 11

BIG WEST STANDINGS 2.25.09

TEAM	BIG WEST	OVERALL
Long Beach State	8-4 .667	13-12 .520
Cal State Northridge	8-4 .667	12-12 .500
Pacific	7-6 .539	14-11 .560
UC Davis	7-6 .539	12-15 .444
Cal State Fullerton	7-7 .500	13-14 .482
UC Riverside	6-6 .500	15-10 .600
UC Irvine	6-7 .462	10-17 .370
UC Santa Barbara	5-7 .417	12-13 .480
Cal Poly	3-10 .231	7-17 .292

Oakland Athletics end Fremont stadium plans

Sudhin Thanawala
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — The Oakland Athletics on Tuesday officially scrapped their plans to move to Fremont, capping months of speculation that the team would pull out over procedural holdups.

A's owner Lew Wolff told city officials in a letter that the A's have stopped all plans to build a new, state-of-the-art stadium in the San Francisco Bay area suburb, 20 miles south of the team's current home at the Oakland Coliseum. He cited expected delays to the project as a reason for his decision.

"Delays that are both real and threatened have made it impossible for me to assure my organization of an implementation date consistent with our needs and the requirements of Major League Baseball," Wolff wrote in the letter. He noted that the team had already committed more than \$80 million to the project, \$24 million of which is not-recoverable.

Fremont Mayor Bob Wasserman said he was disappointed by the decision.

"I think it's an opportunity we may never have again," he said. "It (would have) generated revenues for a city that badly needs revenue."

The project had encountered opposition from some Fremont residents, who questioned its economic benefits and said it would create traffic problems and drive down property values. It appeared doomed last week when the A's asked Fremont to stop the planning process for the stadium, saying they wanted to reconsider their options.

In his letter to city officials Tuesday, Wolff said he had not expected local resistance to the project.

"I thought the overwhelming pluses of having our A's in your community for the next 40 years and longer would have resonated in a more positive manner even with those who might perceive some negatives," he said.

But Kathy McDonald, head of a Fremont citizens group opposed to the project, said a stadium would saddle Fremont with additional infrastructure and police costs and stifle other businesses.

"We're too small a city to have such a luxury item," she said. "The bottom line is economically this (would have been) a disastrous decision for Fremont."

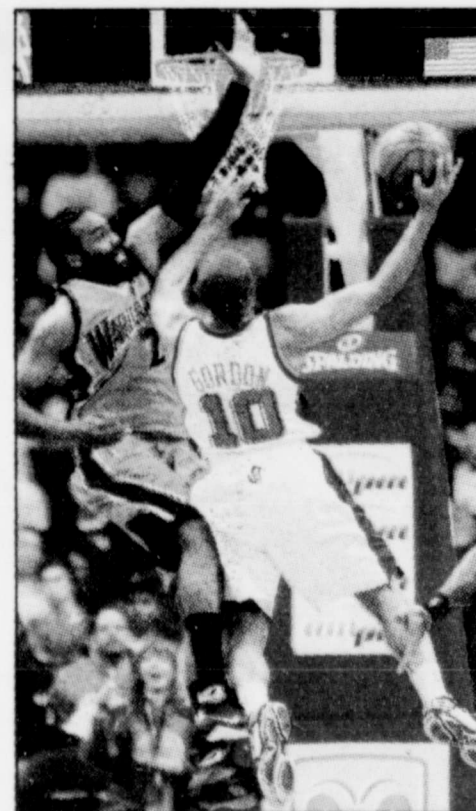
The team, tired of sharing a run-down space with the NFL's Oakland

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Bright spot in LA: Gordon shines for woeful Clippers

Solange Reyner
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Suns coach Alvin Gentry called him the best new talent in the league. Golden State's Stephen Jackson said he's a



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Los Angeles Clippers guard Eric Gordon attempts a shot against Golden State's Ronny Turiaf.

future franchise player.

Eric Gordon has made quite the impression during his rookie season with the Los Angeles Clippers, even if the gifted guard isn't really interested in the limelight.

"I just try to prove something every game — that I can play," Gordon said Tuesday.

The rest of the NBA is slowly getting the picture.

Gordon scored 27 points, making six of seven 3-pointers, to lead the Clippers to a 118-105 victory over the Warriors on Monday night. He has scored at least 21 in each of his last five games to raise his average to 15.3 for the season.

Gordon earned NBA rookie of the month honors for January, leading all first-year players in points (21.9 average) and minutes (41.1 average). The highlight of the month was a 41-point performance against Oklahoma City, a franchise rookie record and the highest total for any rookie this season.

"He's had some big games where teams certainly have taken notice but I think the thing that impresses most people is his motor, the way he plays every night,"

Clippers coach Mike Dunleavy said. "He can get to the bucket or he can bang out 3s."

Gordon's big game against the Warriors helped the Clippers end a three-game skid and got Jackson's attention.

"He has a knack for hitting the big shots and you can't teach that," Jackson said. "That kid is going to be very good."

"He's one of the guys they're going to keep around and help turn this franchise into a winner. The good thing about him is he's more mature than these (other) rookies."

Gordon is admittedly quiet. He bought a Range Rover and a town home after the Clippers selected him with the seventh pick in last year's draft, but stayed away from any other big purchases.

"I like cars, but I don't really get into too much jewelry," Gordon said.

Eric Gordon Sr. said his son has always been that way.

"He likes his casual dress clothes, too," Gordon Sr. said, in a phone interview from Indianapolis. "He used to have these clothes

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